

Appln. No. 10/782,117
Amendment dated September 26, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed May 26, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Currently Amended) A rotary blade holding tool for facilitating holding a rotary blade during manipulation of the rotary blade, said rotary blade holding tool comprising:

an elongated sheath having an opening extending into said elongated sheath for snugly receiving an end of the rotary blade whereby said elongated sheath surrounds and covers the end of the rotary blade, said elongated sheath being graspable by a user such that the user prevents rotation of the rotary blade;

wherein said elongated sheath is bowed along a longitudinal axis of said elongated sheath whereby said elongated sheath securely engages the end of the rotary blade as it is inserted into said opening.

2. (Original) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 1 wherein said opening has a width of about 1 inch for receiving the end of the rotary blade.

3. (Original) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 1 wherein said elongated sheath has a length of about fifteen and one half inches.

4. (Original) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 1 wherein said elongated sheath has an oblong cross-sectional shape for facilitating comfortable grasping of said elongated sheath.

5. (Original) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 1 wherein said elongated sheath has a width of about three and one half inches.

BEST AVAILABLE

Appln. No. 10/782,117
Amendment dated September 26, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed May 26, 2005

6. (Original) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 1 wherein said elongated sheath is structured to include an aperture extending through said elongated sheath, said aperture being positioned proximate an end of said elongated sheath opposite said opening.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The rotary blade holding tool of claim [[7]] 1 wherein a medial portion of said elongated sheath is offset from ends of said elongated sheath by about one sixteenth inches.

9. (Original) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 6 wherein said aperture has a diameter of about one half inches.

10. (New) 1. (Currently Amended) A rotary blade holding tool for facilitating holding a rotary blade during manipulation of the rotary blade, said rotary blade holding tool comprising:

an elongated sheath having an opening extending into said elongated sheath for snugly receiving an end of the rotary blade whereby said elongated sheath surrounds and covers the end of the rotary blade, said elongated sheath being graspable by a user such that the user prevents rotation of the rotary blade;

wherein said elongated sheath is bowed along a longitudinal axis of said elongated sheath whereby said elongated sheath securely engages the end of the rotary blade as it is inserted into said opening; and

wherein a medial portion of said elongated sheath is offset from ends of said elongated sheath by about one sixteenth inches.

11. (New) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 10 wherein said opening has a width of about 1 inch for receiving the end of the rotary blade.

BEST AVAILABLE

Appln. No. 10/782,117

Amendment dated September 26, 2005

Reply to Office Action mailed May 26, 2005

12. (New) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 10 wherein said elongated sheath has a length of about fifteen and one half inches.

13. (New) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 10 wherein said elongated sheath has an oblong cross-sectional shape for facilitating comfortable grasping of said elongated sheath.

14. (New) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 10 wherein said elongated sheath has a width of about three and one half inches.

15. (New) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 10 wherein said elongated sheath is structured to include an aperture extending through said elongated sheath, said aperture being positioned proximate an end of said elongated sheath opposite said opening.

16. (New) The rotary blade holding tool of claim 15 wherein said aperture has a diameter of about one half inches.

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